aid has left on the feeling and thinking of people in Europe. I will never forget the beautiful Exhibition of Reconstruction in Rome.

In the entrance hall we saw a single symbolic sculpture: light emerging from human work. On the white wall was a single brief inscription in golden letters: "The free people of America have contributed three billion dollars to the reconstruction of Italy." In the endless succession of rooms, all phases of reconstruction were shown in pictures, sculptures, maps, dioramas, charts, and statistical tables. Large cities and humble villages, hospitals and schools, bridges and harbors, factories and power stations—all were represented as they were before the war, as they were lying in ruins, and as they were reconstructed. The rebuilding of human beings was illustrated by their improved nutrition and health. Every hall gave statistical records of the sources from which each project had been financed.

We reached the last hall, where the walls were formed by unequal blocks of marble, each one with a huge headline from some Italian newspaper, telling the history of the last fifty years. The headlines on the first wall covered the period 1900-25—the general uneasiness after the turn of the century, World War I, growing unrest all over the world, the Communist revolution in Russia and the Fascist revolution in Italy. The second wall told the story of the two decades 1925-45—the Nazi upheaval in Germany, Hitler's conquests in the West and East, the collapse of democracies, "*Italy attacks France*," "*Italy declares war on the United States.*" And then the end—defeat and annihilation of the forces of Nazism and Fascism, Italy prostrate in ruins. . . . The third wall, 1945-50: "*The United States renounces all claims for reparation from Italy.*" "*America sends food to the Italian people.*" "*Wheat from overseas reaches Italian ports.*" "*American ships bring medicine, coal, gasoline, and machinery to Italy.*" "*The Italian people can live, breathe, and work in peace.*" Finally, "*The Marshall Plan unites all free nations of the world.*" The fourth wall carried a message: "*Such were the events of the last fifty years. The future is in your hand, Italian citizen. If you maintain in Italy the spirit of humanity and international unity manifested to us in recent years, our future is bright.*"

This exhibition expressed feelings that were then widespread in western Europe.

The Germans were more reserved, even sullen, bewildered by the sudden fall from their position as the Masters of Europe to unconditional surrender. The United States puzzled them; they did not completely trust it, but they believed that America would help them in economic reconstruction. And many times we heard German intellectuals say, "They have dismantled and dynamited our industrial plants that survived the air bombardment. This was to be expected.